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Sixty-second session
Agenda item 16
Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Security Council
Sixty-third year

Identical letters dated 16 August 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit the attached statements of the Press and Information Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia regarding the facts of the ethnic cleansing of Georgia, the shift of the administrative border of the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia, inaccurate information on a Georgian armed forces attack on Russian "peacekeepers" and the information on the explosion of the railway bridge in Kaspi by Russia's occupation army (see annex, enclosures 1-4).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 16, "Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development", and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Irakli **Alasania**
Permanent Representative

08-46613 (E) 210808

Annex to the identical letters dated 16 August 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Enclosure 1

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia

New wave of ethnic cleansing of Georgians

According to the statement of 16 August 2008 of the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Russian Federation, subdivisions of the Ministry have started withdrawal of the ethnic Georgian population from the Tskhinvali region in the direction of Gori.

We are faced with a new wave of ethnic cleansing of Georgians conducted under a military-occupation regime by the Russian Federation, this time through the involvement of Russian State structures.

We would like to focus the international community's attention on the fact that the Russian Authorities have recently been making an increasing number of statements about the necessity of taking into consideration the will of the region's population. The ethnic cleansing of Georgians seems to be a method by which Moscow expects to attain awaited results.

Tbilisi, 16 August 2008

Enclosure 2

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia

Administrative border of the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia is shifted

On 16 August 2008 at approximately 4 p.m. local time, armed gangs of the Abkhazian separatist regime together with units of the Russian regular army shifted the administrative border of the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia towards the Enguri River. This caused the villages of the Zugdidi region, Ganmukhuri and Khurcha, to fall under the occupation of the Russian army and armed gangs of the Abkhazian separatist regime. In those villages the Abkhazian separatist government set up a temporary administration.

According to the reliable information, the criminal situation has rapidly deteriorated in the Georgian villages bordering the Enguri River. There are cases of physical abuse and looting. Abkhazian armed gangs together with Russian soldiers are robbing the local population and smuggling the stolen goods to the other side of the Enguri River.

Furthermore, the Russian Federation still continues the bombing of Georgian territories using the incendiary weapon prohibited by the International Convention. Today, at approximately 7 p.m. local time, Russian military helicopters bombed timber lands in the vicinity of the town Surami igniting new fires.

Due to the extremely difficult situation caused by the direct and unconcealed occupation of Georgia by the Russian Federation, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia calls upon the friendly countries and the international community to provide urgent assistance in extinguishing the fires across Georgia and again condemns, in the strongest terms, Russian aggression against the sovereign State of Georgia.

Tbilisi, 16 August 2008

Enclosure 3

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Today the Russian information agencies spread the information that the Georgian armed forces have launched an attack on the so-called Russian "peacekeepers" in the conflict zone of Abkhazia and that, as they claim, the full-scaled military operations still continue.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia declares with full responsibility that the above-mentioned represents the recurrent disinformation of the Russian side and intends further escalation of the situation and justification of Russian aggression.

Tbilisi, 16 August 2008

Enclosure 4

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Russia's occupation army explodes a railway bridge in Kaspi

Video footage

Officials of the Russian Authorities continue their attempts to mislead the international community.

As noted in the previous statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia of 16 August 2008, troops of the Russian occupation army carried out yet another subversive-terrorist act, they mined and exploded the Metekhi-Grakali span of the railway bridge in the Kaspi district, which resulted in the severing of railway links between the east and west of Georgia.

Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the Russian Armed Forces Anatoly Nogovitsyn denied the fact of the bridge blast and said: "I state with fully responsibility, it is ruled out."

With respect to this statement of Anatoly Nogovitsyn, every organization or physical person concerned may check the website http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Dqurwp09Kc, http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BK3xVgrMfbg for video footage of the exploded bridge.

We are confident the international community assesses adequately the reliability of "data" disseminated by Russian officials concerning the developments throughout the Georgian territory, both in and outside the conflict zone.

Tbilisi, 16 August 2008

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Agenda item 17
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Sixty-third year

Identical letters dated 18 August 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I transmit to you herewith a statistical summary of Israeli violations committed from 15 to 31 July 2008 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 17, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nawaf **Salam**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

08-46777 (E) 250808 260808

Annex to the identical letters dated 18 August 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Israeli violations, acts of aggression and other activities from 15 to 31 July 2008, inclusive

Air violations

On 15 July 2008:

- Between 0848 and 1135 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha'b and heading north as far as Jazzin. It circled over the south as far as Sidon, then left over Naqurah;
- Between 1130 and 1210 hours, four Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace. They entered over Rumaysh and headed north, proceeded as far as Beirut, circled between Beirut and the South, then left over Alma al-Sha'b.

On 16 July 2008:

- Between 1400 and 1645 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft circled over the areas of Bint Jubayl and Tibnin;
- Between 2130 and 2205 hours, Israeli enemy warplanes flew intermittently over the areas of Bint Jubayl and Tibnin;
- At 1835 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Naqurah. It circled over Beirut, Juniyah, Dahr al-Baydar, Riyaq and the South before leaving over Alma al-Sha'b at 0320 hours on 17 July 2008.

On 17 July 2008:

- Between 0510 and 0615 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Rumaysh. It circled over the Shuf and the South before leaving over Naqurah;
- Between 1000 and 1116 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha'b and heading north as far as Damur. It circled between Damur and areas of the South before leaving over Naqurah;
- Between 1057 and 1200 hours, eight Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha'b. They circled over all regions of Lebanon before leaving over Naqurah.

On 18 July 2008, at 1825 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Rumaysh and heading north. It circled over the regions of the South before leaving at 0050 hours on 19 July 2008.

On 19 July 2008:

- At 2245 hours, and intermittently thereafter, Israeli enemy warplanes flew over the areas of Bint Jubayl and Tibnin;

– At 1825 hours, and then again at 2240 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Tyre. It circled over the sea off Beirut before leaving at 0050 hours on 20 July 2008 over the sea off Naqurah.

On 22 July 2008:

– Between 1030 and 1115 hours, four Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. They circled over the South, the western Bekaa and the Shuf before leaving over Kafr Killa;

– Between 1250 and 1350 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft circled over the areas of Bint Jubayl and Naqurah;

– Between 1530 and 1600 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft circled over the area of Bint Jubayl.

On 23 July 2008:

– Between 1205 and 1210 hours, two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Dayr Mimas. They circled over all regions of Lebanon before leaving over Alma al-Sha'b;

– Between 1545 and 1855 hours, two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. They circled over all regions of Lebanon before leaving over Kafr Killa;

– At 1145 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha'b and heading north. It proceeded as far as Beirut and circled over the Beirut area. It then headed east as far as Riyaq and circled over that city, returned south and circled over the regions of the South before leaving at 0855 on 24 July 2008 over Naqurah;

– At 2359 hours, two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Rumaysh and heading north. They proceeded as far as Shikka and circled between the North and the South before leaving at 0155 hours on 24 July 2008 over Naqurah.

On 24 July 2008:

– Between 1000 and 1145 hours, two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa and heading north. They proceeded as far as Shikka, then headed east as far as Hirmil and circled over the Baalbek-Hirmil area before leaving over Kafr Kila;

– Between 1230 and 1350 hours, two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. They proceeded to circle over all regions of Lebanon before leaving over Rumaysh;

– Between 2140 and 2320 hours, two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha'b. They proceeded to circle over all regions of Lebanon before leaving over Rumaysh.

On 25 July 2008:

– Between 0430 and 1700 hours, Israeli enemy warplanes flew intermittently over the areas of Bint Jubayl and Tibnin;

– At 1910 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Aytarun. It circled over the South and the Bekaa before leaving at 0600 on 26 July 2008 over Alma al-Sha'b.

On 26 July 2008:

– Between 1210 and 1343 hours, two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Rumaysh. They circled over all regions of Lebanon before leaving over Alma al-Sha'b;

– Between 2120 and 2145 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha'b. It circled over the South, Beirut and Juniyah before leaving over Rumaysh.

On 28 July 2008:

– Between 0700 and 0825 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Rumaysh. It circled over the South before leaving over the sea off Naqurah;

– Between 1100 and 1815 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft circled over the areas of Bint Jubayl and Tibnin.

On 29 July 2008:

– Between 1105 and 1230 hours, two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. They circled over all regions of Lebanon before leaving over the sea off Naqurah;

– Between 1645 and 1805 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha'b. It circled over Damur and the South before leaving over Naqurah.

On 30 July 2008, between 1500 and 2245 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha'b and heading north. It proceeded as far as Beirut and circled over Beirut and the South before leaving over Rumaysh.

On 31 July 2008:

– Between 0700 and 1020 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Rumaysh. It circled over Beirut and the South before leaving over the sea off Naqurah;

– Between 1005 and 1140 hours, two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. They circled over all regions of Lebanon before leaving over Alma al-Sha'b;

– Between 1535 and 1615 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft circled over the region of Bint Jubayl;

– Between 2055 and 2120 hours, Israeli enemy warplanes flew intermittently at high altitude over the area of Naqurah.

Acts of aggression in the field

On 15 July 2008, at 0230 hours, an Israeli enemy patrol shone a searchlight for one minute in the direction of a Lebanese Army position (south-east of Alma al-Sha'b).

On 17 July 2008, beginning at 0630 hours, the Israeli enemy sent a recorded message to some Lebanese mobile and landline telephones. The contents of the message were as follows: "The State of Israel warns the Lebanese people that they should not respond to Hizbullah propaganda. The Lebanese people will pay dearly for any aggression by that terrorist party against the State of Israel. From the State of Israel to the people and Government of Lebanon: do not allow Hizbullah to once again bring ruin and destruction to your country. The State of Israel will respond resolutely and strongly to any aggression committed against it by Hizbullah".

On 19 July 2008, between 2135 and 2330 hours, the Israeli enemy shone a searchlight from the western gate of the Zar'it barracks towards the Marwahin triangle, and then once again, at 2110 hours, towards the Lebanese Army positions at Tarbikha and Jabal Balat.

On 20 July 2008:

- At 0915 hours, in the northern part of the town of Ghajar, opposite the water pump at the Wazzani spring, an Israeli enemy patrol attached five searchlights to supports that had been previously erected;
- At 2142 hours, Israeli enemy forces shone a searchlight for one minute from the western gate of the Zar'it barracks towards the Marwahin-Jabal Balat triangle.

On 23 July 2008:

- Between 1430 hours and 1630 hours, an Israeli enemy patrol comprising two Hummer vehicles and a crane transported 20 cement blocks to the northern part of the town of Ghajar and placed them on top of an earthen berm;
- At 2035 hours, the Israeli enemy shone a searchlight for two minutes from the western gate of the Zar'it barracks (opposite Marwahin) towards the Tarbikha gate.

On 24 July 2008:

- At 2250 hours, the Israeli enemy shone a searchlight for two minutes from the Zar'it barracks towards the Lebanese Army position at Tarbikha;
- At 2353 hours, from its position on the Mays al-Jabal-Muhaybib road, a Merkava tank belonging to the Israeli enemy directed its cannon towards the Lebanese Army observation post at Mays al-Jabal for a period of three minutes.

On 25 July 2008, at 2305 hours, the Israeli enemy shone a searchlight for one minute from the Zar'it barracks towards the Marwahin triangle.

On 27 July 2008:

- At 2147 hours, and then once again at 2220 hours, the Israeli enemy shone a searchlight for two minutes from the western gate of the Zar'it barracks towards the Marwahin triangle;

– At 2147 hours, the Israeli enemy shone a searchlight for two minutes from the Zar'it barracks towards Tarbikha-Jabal Balat.

On 28 July 2008, at 2110 hours, the Israeli enemy shone a searchlight for 40 seconds from the Zar'it barracks towards the Marwahin triangle, the Tarbikha gate and surrounding woodlands. The enemy repeated that exercise at 2129 hours for a period of one minute.

On 29 July 2008, at 0010 hours, and then once again at 0110 hours, the Israeli enemy shone a searchlight for one minute from the Zar'it barracks towards the Marwahin triangle and Jabal Balat.

On 30 July 2008, at 2055 hours, the Israeli enemy shone a searchlight for one minute from the Zar'it barracks towards the Marwahin triangle and the Tarbikha gate. The enemy repeated that exercise at 2110 hours, shining the searchlight for one and one-half minutes towards the Marwahin triangle, the Tarbikha gate and the position of the 6th Brigade at Jabal Balat.

Israeli activities

On 21 July 2008, at 0830 hours, on the outskirts of the town of Ghajar, an Israeli enemy patrol, comprising a Hummer vehicle towing a Poclain construction vehicle, widened a 15 metre section of a dirt road. The patrol left at 1300 hours.

On 22 July 2008, between 1030 and 1620 hours, south of the occupied town of Ghajar, Israeli enemy forces widened a 20 metre section of a dirt road.

On 30 July 2008, at 0500 hours, opposite the town of Rumaysh, two Israeli enemy Merkava tanks crossed the technical fence via the Qatmun gate. Some 20 persons alighted and proceeded to search for landmines. Two such mines were detonated, one at 1015 hours and another at 1020 hours. They left at 1215 hours, without violating the Blue Line.

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The situation in the Middle East

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Sixty-third year

Identical letters dated 18 August 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I transmit to you herewith a statistical table of the violations committed by Israel during the month of July 2008 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 17, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nawaf **Salam**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 18 August 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Statistical table showing Israeli violations during July 2008

Air violations					*Land violations*					
Military jet	*Reconnaissance*	*Helicopter*	*Total*	*Sea violations*	*Military acts of aggression*	*Field violations*	*Breaches*	*Total*	*Overall total*	*Previous month's violations*
				Crossing of territorial waters, and firing of automatic-weapons rounds, flares and flare shells over territorial waters	Air raids, artillery shelling, shelling of military positions and important posts, attacks on and killing of civilians	Gunfire, launching of flare shells, dropping of artillery shells, infiltration and crossing of international borders	Threats and display of weapons, bulldozing of soil, placing of barbed wire and setting up of installations inside Lebanese territory			
34	32	—	66	1	—	30	2	32	99	71